

You can't kill, or legislate out a spirit. Football represents so much of a spirit of a game where mental, physical, and emotional expressions have a wholesome outlet that youth will demand, and have, in one way or another. Therefore, it would be folly for our colleges to attempt to kill the game. History of the sport tells us Kings have tried to kill the game by making it punishable by death for anyone found guilty of starting a game of football. In our own nation, in not so many years back, State Legislatures have ruled the game out. Many Colleges tried to kill the sport, but found it to be a leech that hung on in spite of all opposition. Nearly all college Presidents in the early years washed their hands of the game. Later the game was tolerated, and, yet frowned upon by educators largely because they did not understand the game, and were afraid of the administration of so powerful an influence in the Colleges. I believe, sincerely, that the majority of College Administrators today see in this game that has so great an incentive and influence over student and spectator alike an adjunct to education that cannot be duplicated anywhere in the Academic life.

All coaches should rise up in arms and ostracise one of their own member who brands this fine group of men as "Beagle Hounds out sniffing the bushes for athletes to be given salaries for doing no work". Likewise, all professors should resent the snap course idea, and fear of flunking an athlete, if a minimum of work has not been completed.

The Coaching Profession is heartily in accord with the University Administrators controlling the Athletic situation to such an extent that the department is in harmony with the aims and ideals of the institution of which it is a part. The professions is not in harmony with the idea that the program is not an educational one and decidedly not worth while because it is a "money loser". The question of its value cannot be measured in dollars and cents. We should be glad that 80 of the 640 Universities did make a profit out of an educational feature. The profession does not condone any institution or individual who violates the ethics of the game and profession. It is hardly in keeping with intelligent thinking for all Coaches to be branded as "Beagle Hounds", or all Colleges to be accused of paying players, and all Professors to be accused of giving free rides, any more than it would be rational thinking to say all Doctors were quacks and without ethics because a few of their profession were found guilty.

I have enjoyed some 20 years of association with athletics and the teacher of these sports, and have found very little ground for such rash statements as made by "Phog". It is regrettable when one who has earned his livelihood from the athletic program for so many years to turn out to be unworthy of the respect of his fellow coaches.

Such logic can only come from emotional judgment rather than rationalizing the facts to be had. I for one could not sit by and allow such statements to go unchallenged. Hence this lengthy expression to you of the view point of one who has given many years to coaching and is looking forward to the time when he can again be a part of the great game of football, and allied coaching duties. When all Coaches will put their shoulder to the wheel and push in trying to eliminate the evils that are apparent to all, rather than being a drag to a worth while program. Then and only then, will we achieve fully the benefits that can and should be a part of our intercollegiate contests and especially football in our American Democratic Schools and Colleges.

P.S.-A copy has been sent
to the Doctor in his
lair at K.U.

Kindest regards

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